

### Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A rubber tread ~~in particular for tires,~~ for a tire, the rubber tread comprising:

a plurality of tread pattern elements ~~in relief~~ (1) comprising lateral faces, (13, 14, 15, 16) and one contact face (2) ~~intended to be in contact along a surface~~ for contact with ~~[[the]]~~ a roadway during travel of ~~[[a]]~~ the tire, and at least one ridge defined by a ~~provided with said tread,~~ the limit of the surface of contact of the contact face ~~[[ (2) ]]~~ with the ground roadway; forming at least one ridge; (23, 24, 25, 26);

a plurality of cutouts (3, 4) ~~in the form of grooves and/or incisions, said cutouts~~ (3, 4) being defined by ~~facings~~ the lateral faces; (13, 15), (14, 16);

wherein each of the tread pattern element ~~(1) being elements~~ is formed with at least one ~~first rubber mix (referred to as "~~ base mix ~~[[ " ]],~~ and at least one covering mix;

~~wherein, viewed in section in a plane containing the thickness of this tread, at least one face defining at least one cutout~~ at least one of the lateral faces is covered at least in part with a ~~second rubber mix, referred to as "~~ the covering mix ~~", this part having covering mix extending when new over~~ having a height  $H_r$  at least equal to 30% of ~~[[the]]~~ a height  $H$  of the at least one lateral face before the tire is used,

wherein the at least one base mix ~~opens on~~ extends to the contact face ~~when new or from the time before the tire is used until, at the latest, after wear at most equal~~ is up to 10% of the height  $H_r$  of the covering mix, and

wherein said covering mix ~~comprising~~ comprises more than 30 phr of a butyl rubber ~~[[,]]~~ and ~~wherein the covering mix comprises~~ a plasticiser of ~~[[the]]~~ an unsaturated C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>22</sub> fatty acid ester type.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The tread according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of the fatty acid ester type is between 5 and 80 phr, ~~preferably between 10 and 50 phr.~~

3. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The tread according to claim 1, wherein the fatty acid ester type is a glycerol trioleate.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The tread according to Claim 3, wherein the amount of glycerol trioleate is between 15 and 30 phr.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The tread according to Claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the covering mix comprises from 50 to 100 phr of butyl rubber.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The tread according to claim 1, wherein the base mix is devoid of butyl rubber.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) A tire comprising a tread according to claim 1.

10. (New) The tread according to claim 1, wherein the cutouts are in the form of grooves or incisions.

11. (New) The tread according to claim 1, wherein the amount of ester is between 10 and 50 phr.